

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: OAS, EGEN, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN CANDIDATES FOR OAS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

REF: BRAZILIA 1819

1. BRAZIL GAVE SECRETARY GENERAL ORFILA THE NAMES OF TWO CANDIDATES TO REPLACE ANNIBAL VILLELA WHO IS RESIGNING AS OF JUNE 30 AS OAS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. ORFILA HAS ASKED BRAZIL FOR A THIRD NOMINATION, AND THE BRAZILIAN MISSION TO THE OAS TELLS US A SEARCH IS NOW UNDERWAY FOR A THIRD CANDIDATE. ARTICLE 123 OF THE CHARTER GIVES THE SECRETARY GENERAL THE RESPONSIBILITY OF APPOINTING THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.

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2. THIS JOB IS LOOKED ON AS A BRAZILIAN SLOT FOR ORFILA'S FIVE YEAR TERM. VILLELA IS THE ONLY BRAZILIAN IN A SENIOR OAS POSITION. HE HAS NOT GOTTEN ALONG WELL WITH ORFILA, AND HIS DECISION TO LEAVE WITH TWO YEARS REMAINING IN THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD GIVES BRAZIL THE OPPORTUNITY TO NAME A SUCCESSOR.

3. THE BRAZILIAN MISSION TOLD US THAT WHILE ATHYR GUIMARAES MAY BE THE FINANCE MINISTRY'S PREFERRED CANDIDATE (REFTEL), HE IS NOT NECESSARILY ITAMARATI'S FAVORITE. THE SECOND NAME SUBMITTED WAS OLIVIERA, REPORTEDLY THE HEAD OF ONE OF BRAZIL'S REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS, WITH PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN WASHINGTON WITH THE IDB.

4. BY REQUESTING A THIRD NAME, ORFILA IS INDICATING THAT HE MAY HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FIRST TWO. FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE CANDIDATE TO FILL OUT THE REMAINING TWO YEARS OF ORFILA'S CURRENT TERM, TO REPLACE A BRAZILIAN WHO HAS BEEN DISSATISFIED IN THE JOB, COULD BE DIFFICULT. THE U.S. SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF FILLING THE SLOT WITH A BRAZILIAN, PROVIDING A SUITABLE CANDIDATE IS OFFERED. EMBASSY VIEW IS WELCOME. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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